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Claim 17 (amended) The method according to Claim [7] 4 wherein the [bioprecursur] bioprecursor is a [A] phospholipid derivative.

Claim 18 (amended). The method according to Claim [7] 4 wherein the [bioprecurser] bioprecursor is a (R)-MP Bis(POM) derivative.

Claim 19 (amended). The method according to Claim [7] 4 wherein the [bioprecurser] bioprecursor is a (R)-MP diphenyl ester derivative.

Claim 20 (amended). The method according to Claim [7] 4 wherein the [bioprecurser] bioprecursor is a dimyristoylglycerol diphosphate derivative.

Remarks

Claims 1, 3 to 14, and 16 to 20 are in the application. Claim 15 has been cancelled. Claim 4 has been amended to include the various bioprecursors of the dependent claims and to better clarify the invention. Additional typographical and claim dependencies have also been made. No new matter is believed added.

It is noted that the Examiner has restricted the application under 35 USC §121 based upon the claims in the Published PCT application. However, Applicants upon entry into the United States under the provisions of §371 submitted a preliminary amendment on October 22, 1997. This amendment cancelled claim 2, amended the multiple dependencies, and added claims 8 to 14. A copy of that preliminary amendment accompanies this response.

This application is derived from PCT application EP96/01706. Neither the International Searching Authority, or the International Preliminary Examination Authority found the claims to be lacking in unity. Consequently, under the provisions of Article 27(1) of the PCT to which the USPTO is bound thereto it is believed that the present restriction is incorrect. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction under 35 USC §121 is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 USC §112

Claim 4 is objected to under 35 USC §112, first paragraph as failing to adequately teach how to make and use the invention as it relates to the term "bioprecursor".

Applicants respectfully traverse this objection.

Claim 4 has been amended to include the various bioprecursors claimed in the dependent claims to better clarify and more particularly point out the invention. However,